

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-28 and add new claims 29-39 as set forth in the complete listing below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

--29 (New). A hood for protecting the head of a user, said hood comprising:
a flexible skin for providing protection for the user's head; and
a foldable frame, operative to support said flexible skin;
where said flexible skin is attached to said foldable frame;
where said foldable frame is un foldable to a first position where said foldable frame supports said flexible skin, surrounding at least a portion of the user's head and spaced from the head of the user;
and where said foldable frame is foldable to a second position where said foldable frame and said flexible skin are stowed at said second position, with said flexible skin clear of the user's head.

30 (New). A hood according to claim 29, wherein said foldable frame comprises two hinges for being positioned at respective sides of a wearer's head and one or more frame elements connected between the two hinges.

31 (New). A hood according to claim 30, wherein said foldable frame comprises one or more frame elements able to be twisted upon themselves for the foldable frame to be looped upon itself.

32 (New). A hood, according to claim 31, wherein said one or more substantially flexible frame members comprise two or more substantially flexible frame members, a first substantially flexible frame member being pivotal about said hinges, said first substantially flexible frame member comprising first and second pivots on either side thereof, and second and subsequent substantially flexible frame members being affixed at their ends to pivot about the first and second pivots.

33 (New). A hood according to any one of claims 29-32, wherein said foldable frame comprises an "L" shaped member, to allow the hood to reach forward over the wearer's face when said foldable frame is in said first position, and to enable the hood to lie flush against the back of the wearer when said foldable frame is in said second position.

34 (New). A foldable frame for use in a hood for protecting the head of a user, the hood having a flexible skin for providing protection for the user's head and said frame being operative to support the flexible skin;

said frame comprising means for attachment for said flexible skin;

said foldable frame being un foldable to a first position where said foldable frame

supports said flexible skin, surrounding at least a portion of the user's head and spaced from the head of the user;

and said foldable frame being foldable to a second position where said foldable frame and said flexible skin are stowed at said second position, with said flexible skin clear of the user's head.

35 (New). A foldable frame according to claim 34, comprising one or more substantially flexible members, said one or more substantially flexible members being able to be twisted upon themselves from the first position, where the foldable frame is in a first stable configuration and extended, to the second position, where the foldable frame assumes a second stable configuration where the foldable frame is looped upon itself.

36 (New). A foldable frame according to claim 34, wherein said first position comprises said foldable frame, when the user is wearing the garment, supporting the flexible skin to protect the top, sides and rear of the user's head;

and wherein said second position comprises said foldable frame and the flexible skin being disposed behind the collar on the back of the garment.

37 (New). A foldable frame, according to any one of claims 34 through 36, comprising an "L" shaped member, to allow the hood to reach forward over the wearer's face when said foldable frame is in said first position, and to enable the hood to lie flush against the back of the

wearer when said foldable frame is in said second position.

38 (New). A head cover comprising:

a fabric cover for extending over and above the wearer's head;

a frame comprising two support members for being connected to respective sides of said wearer's head and a rib having ends connected to the support members and operable for extending over said wearer's head above the hair and supporting the fabric cover;

said rib also being operable for being looped back upon itself and twisted for the frame to assume a more compact configuration for storage.

39 (New). A foldable frame, according to claim 34, wherein said one or more frame members comprise two or more substantially flexible frame members, a first substantially flexible frame member being pivotable about said hinges, said first substantially flexible frame member comprising first and second pivots on either side thereof, and second and subsequent substantially flexible frame members being affixed at their ends to pivot about the first and second pivots.